TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office

February 28, 1997 LB 104

satisfaction the existence of the homestead exemption. So that means after having claimed it, you're going to have to go through the process of proving that you're entitled to the homestead exemption and, therefore, this refund. Some people may not ever become aware of it. Some people may not want to go through the extra trouble, and it might seem like a slap in the face because they'll say, why take it from me anyway? I'm just this old broken-down person. If they are going to give it back to me, why do they annoy me twice? Why are they going to take it from me, then make me have to go down where they are so they can give it back to me? And if anything it could appear to show inefficiency and that mean spiritedness of government. qualify, you go to a section of statutes to see what constitutes a qualified claimant. If you meet those criteria, separated out from the rest of the populace, who would not be entitled to that homestead exemption. So you are dealing with people who are on the edge anyway. Now you're going to put them in a position of having to feel like they are seeking cherity or going through all of that paperwork just to get what was theirs in the first place, never should have been taken, and now it's being offered back. I'd like to ask Senator Hilgert a question because I think he's worked on the homestead issue and that won't keep Senator Abboud always running to his mike.

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And, Senator Hilgert, I hope you'll turn on your light, so we can continue because we may have to. Do you believe that the homestead exemption is going to go to people who are in a certain economic class?

SENATOR HILGERT: Not necessarily.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Who do you feel will get the homestead exemption based on the way the law is now?

SENATOR HILGERT: The people that will be on...that will get the homestead exemption are the elderly that fall within certain economic income guidelines, as far as income, and also some disabled individuals.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Now...